

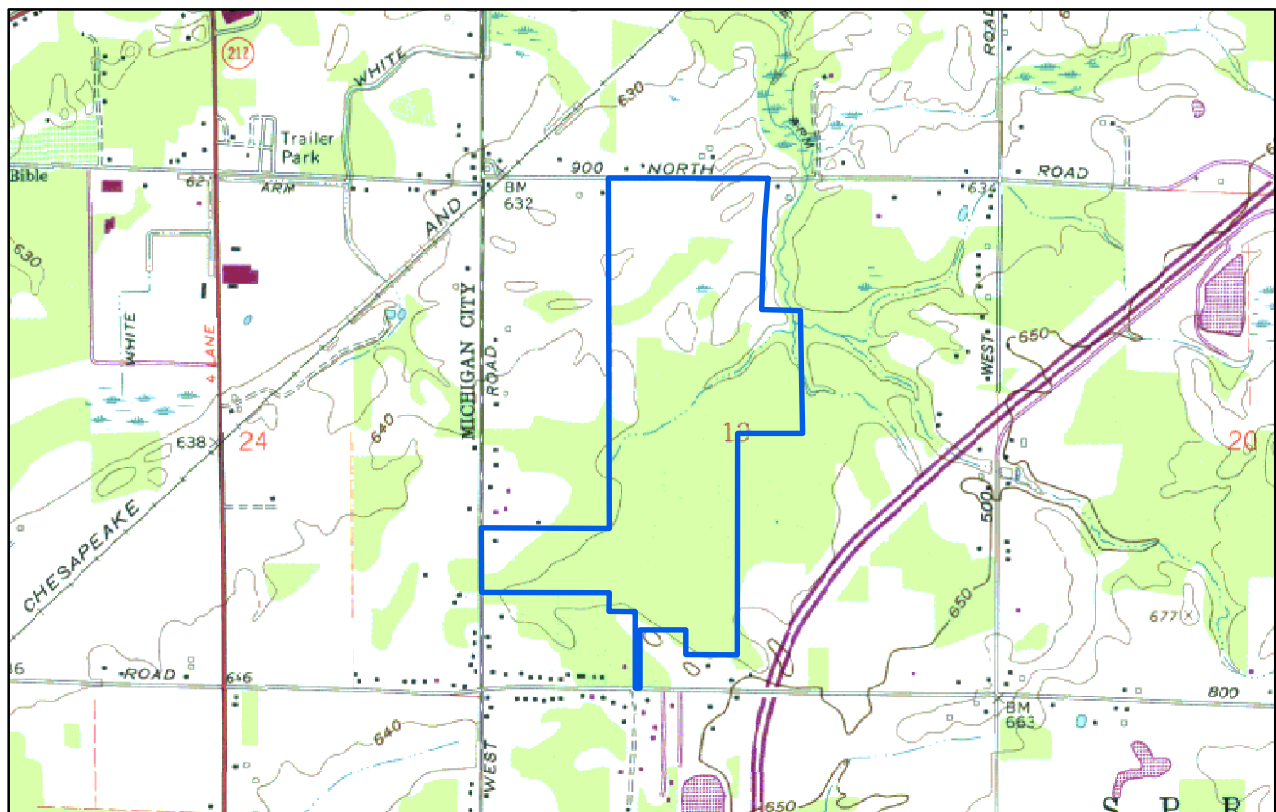
Ambler Flatwoods Nature Preserve

County: LaPorte
Ownership: Shirley Heinze Land Trust

Size 197.3 acres

Location and Access

From the intersection of I-94 and US 20 (exit 40), take US 20 west toward Michigan City. Take the first right onto County Road 600W (Meer Road). The LaPorte County Visitor Center is on the corner. Take Meer Road north about two miles. The parking lot for the southern trailhead is on the right (east) side of the road, about 0.3 mile north of County Road 800 N (Tryon Road). To access the northern trailhead and parking lot, continue north on Meer Road to County Road 900 N (Freyer Road.). Turn right (east) onto Freyer Road and proceed about 0.3 mile to the parking lot on the south side of the road.



Description:

This unique boreal flatwoods harbors relict populations of several plant species that are typical of more northern latitudes. The 197-acre preserve is largely forested, with a rich herbaceous flora. In early spring, vernal pools and rivulets cover a great portion of the property. The dense woods provide habitat for many rare plants, and over 20 species of reptiles and amphibians. The north end of the property is a former farm, and provides examples of open wetlands and early successional terrestrial habitats.

Further Information:

Shirley Heinze Land Trust, 444 Barker Rd., Michigan City, IN 46360, (219) 879-4725.

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Division of Nature Preserves, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W267, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204, 317-232-4052, www.in.gov/dnr/naturepr